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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/846,834	05/01/2001	Mari Tateishi	TSL1469CIP	4974
137	7590	06/18/2003		10
DOW CORNING CORPORATION CO1232 2200 W. SALZBURG ROAD P.O. BOX 994 MIDLAND, MI 48686-0994			EXAMINER	
			CROSS, LATOYA I	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		1743		

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/846,834	TATEISHI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	LaToya I. Cross	1743

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 April 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 21, 2003 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese publication 10-251517 to Akamatsu et al.

Akamatsu et al teach a vibration damping composition comprising 100 pts.wt. viscous liquid and 5-200 pts.wt. solid powder. The viscous liquid is preferably silicone oil, as recited in claim 2. The oil has a viscosity of 100-1,000,000 centistokes (100-1,000,000 mm²/s), as recited in claim 3. The solid powder has an average diameter size of 0.1-100 microns, as recited in claims 5 and 6. The particles are also of differing diameters – 1 wt.% or less of the powder has a diameter size of less than 10 microns and 10 wt.% or more of the powder has a diameter size of greater than 30 microns. The particle sizes differ by at least 20 microns, as recited in claims 4 and 7. The powders may be inorganic powers, calcium carbonate powders or organic resin powders, as recited in claims 8-10. With respect to claim 12, Akamatsu et al teach that the

composition may be incorporated with other components, such as clay. It is noted that the reference does not specifically state that the composition is in the form of a liquid, however, since the composition contains the same components, which are present in the same amounts as claimed by Applicants, the composition would inherently have the same form as Applicants, absent evidence to the contrary.

Therefore, for the reasons set forth above, Applicants' claimed invention is deemed to be anticipated, within the meaning of 35 USC 102(b) in view of the teachings of Akamatsu et al.

Response to Arguments

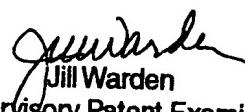
4. Applicant's arguments filed on April 21, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants argue that because Akamatsu et al use calcium carbonate in the comparative examples, the reference teaches away from using it as a part of vibration damping compositions. In response, the Examiner would like to point out that the entire disclosure of the prior art must be taken as a whole, including embodiments that the art notes to be inferior. See MPEP 2123. In applying prior art against the claimed invention, the entire disclosure is used and the disclosure is not limited to preferred embodiments. Paragraph 6 in the translated version of Akamatsu clearly teaches that inorganic powder, including calcium carbonate, may be used as the solid powder. The courts have held that a known composition does not become patentable because it is described in a somewhat inferior manner in comparison to other products for the same use (*In re Gurley*, 27 F.3d 551, 554, 31 USPQ2d 1130, 1132 Fed. Cir. 1994). Thus, the claimed invention remains to be anticipated by Akamatsu et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaToya I. Cross whose telephone number is 703-305-7360. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill A. Warden can be reached on 703-308-4037. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

LIC
June 16, 2003


Jill Warden
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700